amended from time to time. Based on the recommendations of the Government of Maharashtra, the tariff deviations in the Power Purchase Agreement signed between the Dabhol Power Company and the Maharashtra State Electricity Board have been examined by the Government of India (GOI) in consultation with the Central Electricity Authority and approved on 23.12.1994 as per the provisions of the GOI Notification referred above.

[Translation]

Sewerage Treatment Plant

2823. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have established any Sewerage Treation Plant on Ring Road near the Wazirabad bridge over Yamuna river in Delhi;

(b) if so, the date on which this plant had been established and the amount spent thereon so far;

(c) whether this sewerage treatment plant is not operative; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the concrete steps being taken by Government to make it effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Delhi Water Supply and Sewerage Disposal Undertaking (DWS & SDU) has reported that 16 Oxidation Ponds have been constructed on Ring Road close to Wazirabad Bridge.

(b) These ponds were built in the early 70's and an expenditure of Rs. 14.50 lakhs has been incurred during the current financial year so far.

(c) No, Sir. The plant is functional.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

[English]

Age Limit of Young Ones

2824. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to increase the age limit of the young ones from 25 years to 30 years for employment to the new recruits in the Central Government establishments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

Generation of Power

2825. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the installed capacity in the power sector in the country at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the additional capacity added during Eighth Five Year Plan, and

(c) the projections made for Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The installed capacity in the power sector at the end of the seventh Five Year Plan was 63636 MW.

(b) The capacity added during the first four years of the Eighth Plan was 14799 MW. Capacity addition of 2869 MW has been envisaged during the terminal year (1996-97) of the Eighth Plan.

(c) The targets for the Ninth Plan are yet to be finalised.

Lead Free Petrol Outlets

2826. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of lead free petrol outlets in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to open such more outlets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The State-wise number of lead free petrol outlets in the country is as under :

State/UT	Number of lead free outlets
Delhi	195
Uttar Pradesh	69
Maharashtra	157
West Bengal	78
Tamil Nadu	32
Haryana	25
Punjab	24
Himachal Pradesh	4
Rajasthan	8
Andhra Pradesh	24
Chandigarh	4
Gujarat	2
Pondicherry	1
Total	623

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Oil Companies have planned to open 291 lead free outlets during the remaining period of 1996-97.

New Observatory

2827. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some new observatory is likely to be set up in Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, details and feature thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be made operative; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes Sir. The Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, an autonomous institution of Department of Science and Technology, is planning to set up a new observatory in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) and (c). The project consists of setting up of a 2-m class infrared optical telescope at the summit of Dikpa Raja Ree near Hanle Monastery, Changthang Ladakh region. The height of the summit is 15,000 feet. The region has the unique advantage of being among the few high-altitude, cold and dry sites in the world. This is a highly desired environment for astronomy at the infra-red and sub-millimetre wavelenghts. It will ensure high transparency of earth's atmosphere to the light received from celestial sources and will help in probing deeper into the Universe.

The proposed 2-m telescope can be operated remotely using a satellite based computer-to-computer communication link. It is expected to be made fully operational during the Ninth Plan period.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts for SCs/STs

2828. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some posts of various categories reserved for SCs and STs are lying vacant in various departments and undertakings under his Ministry for a considerable time;

(b) if so, the post-wise break-up thereof, till date;

(c) whether the employees of various categories working in departments and undertakings under his Ministry have also been recruited to fresh posts during the last three years;

(d) if so, the year-wise details of the recruitments made on various posts in various categories during the said period, separately;

(e) whether the recruitment of SCs/STs has been made in accordance with the reservation rules; and

(f) the action being taken by the Ministry for filling up the vacant reserved posts in various categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Such data is not maintained in the Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) For filling up of the vacant reserved posts in various categories a Special Recruitment Drive 1996 has been launched.

[English]

Grants-in-Aid to Jammu and Kashmir

2829. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the loans and grants-in-aid provided by the Union Government to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir during each of the last five years;

(b) the balance loans as on 1 April, 1991;

(c) the loans written off during 1991-96 year-wise;

(d) annual budget for 1996-97; and

(e) annual provision for repayment of loan in 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b). A statement showing Loans and Grants-in-aid provided by the Ministry of Finance to Government of Jammu and Kashmir during the last five year is at Statement-I attached. An outstanding balance loan as on 01.04.1991 was of Rs. 2394.22 crores.

(c) An amount of Rs. 2,16.34.431 was written off during 1995-96 in respect of J & K State for Central loans given during 1989-95 as per Tenth Finance Commission's recommendations relating to specific relief for all special category States and States which are characterised by high fiscal stress category warranting special attention for writing off of 5% of repayments due during 1995-2000 with respect to Central loans given during 1989-95.

(d) A statement showing State Budget Estimates for 1996-97 is at Statement-II attached.